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Message Text

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12
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14 RSC-01

L-03 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10 NSAE-00

NASA-04 NSC-07 SCI-06 DRC-01 (ISO) W
---------- 010467
R 032253Z JUL 74
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4611
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TSPA, PFOR, UN, UR
SUBJ: UN OUTER SPACE AFFAIRS: CONSULTATIONS WITH USSR

1. US AND USSR DELS TO CURRENT SESSION OF UN OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE (OSC) MET JULY 2 AT SOVIET INSTANCE FOR PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS ON (LARGELY PROCEDURAL) MATTERS BEFORE OSC. DISCUSSION PRODUCED NO SURPRISES RE POLICIES, BUT DID INCLUDE NEAR APPROACH TO EXPLICIT SOVIET INVITATION TO US REPS TO COME TO MOSCOW FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS IN ADVANCE OF NEXT YEAR'S OUTER SPACE LEGAL SUBCOMMITTEE (OSLS) SESSION.

2. IN RAISING MATTER, USSR REP PIRADOV REITERATED VALUE SOVIETS PLACE ON US BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP IN CONNECTION WITH UN OUTER SPACE MATTERS, PARTICULARLY LEGAL ONES. HE ALLUDED TO WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS BEFORE 1972 OSLS AS HAVING BEEN VALUABLE AND SUGGESTED THAT SIMILAR MEETING, SUBSTANTIALLY IN ADVANCE OF SUBCOMMITTEE'S 1975 SESSION, COULD BE EQUALLY USEFUL.

3. OBSERVING THAT SOVIETS WISH TO ALTER PRESENT ARRANGE-MENT UNDER WHICH OSLS SESSIONS ROTATE BETWEEN NEW YORK AND GENEVA (SEE BELOW), PIRADOV SAID THAT IN CONNECTION
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WITH BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS HE FAVORED ROTATION AND

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THEREFORE HOPED US DELEGATION OR SELECTED REPRESENTATIVES
COULD COME TO MOSCOW IN 1975 FOR THAT PURPOSE. HE ADDED, HOW-
EVER, THAT SOVS WOULD TRAVEL "TO WASHINGTON, TO PARIS
(PIRADOV IS USSR PERM REP TO UNESCO) OR WHEREVER;"
WHAT WAS IMPORTANT WAS TO HAVE CONSULTATIONS, PREFERABLY
LONG ENOUGH BEFORE OSLS SESSION TO ALLOW RESPECTIVE
GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE RESULTS ADEQUATELY INTO ACCOUNT.

4. WE REPLIED THAT WE TOO HAD FOUND 1972 CONSULTATIONS
USEFUL, AGREED THAT ADVANCED TIMING HAD ADDED TO THEIR
VALUE, AND WOULD OF COURSE REPORT SOVIET INTEREST IN
RESUMING THIS MORE AMBITIOUS MODE OF CONSULTATION.
WE NOTED THAT PATTERN OF CLOSE INTERCHANGE BETWEEN US
AND USSR DELEGATIONS HAD BEEN MAINTAINED FOR ALL
RECENT MEETINGS OF OSC AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES AT
SESSIONS THEMSELVES.

5. ON MATTERS BEFORE CURRENT SESSION OF OSC, USSR
STATED LARGELY PREDICTABLE VIEWS: (A) THEY DO NOT
WISH TO RECONVENE WORKING GROUPS ON REMOTE DESIGN
AND DIRECT BROADCAST SATELLITES, AT LEAST IN 1975;
(B) THEY CONTINUED TO PUSH FOR PERMANENT GENEVA VENUE
FOR OSLS, OVERTURING ROTATION AGREEMENT; (C) THEY
SOLICITED S US SUPPORT IN BID FOR INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS
IN OSC OVER ISSUES REMAINING UNRESOLVED IN OSLS
NEGOTIATIONS ON MOON TREATY, AND CONTRIBUTION TO EFFORT
TO PERSUADE OTHERS TO DROP CONTENTIOUS PROVISIONS
CONCERNING EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES FROM
TREATY TEXT.

6. WE REPLIED, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERAGENCY CLEARED
INSTRUCTIONS TO US DEL: (A) WE WERE ESSENTIALLY NEUTRAL
ON QUESTION OF EARLY RECONVENING OF EITHERWORKING GROUP,
BUT DID SYMPATHIZE PARTICULARLY WITH SMALLER COUNTRIES
OVER THEIR PROBLEMS IN STAFFING DELEGATIONS TO MULTIPLICITY
OF SEPARATE SESSIONS OF SOC-RELATED ORGANIZATIONS; (B)
WE HAD REPORTED EARLIER SOVIET STATEMENTS OF INTEREST
IN SHIFTING OSLS VENUE PERMANENTLY TO GENEVA AND
QUESTION HAD BEEN GIVEN THOROUGH CONSIDERATION BY
APPROPRIATE USG AUTHORITIES; WE COULD NOT AGREE TO
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PERMANENT SHIFT OF VENUE AT LEAST PENDING CONSIDERATION
OF REPORT ON ENTIRE PATTERN OF UN CONFERENCES AT THIS
FALL'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY; MEANWHILE SOVS MIGHT LOOK FOR
ORGANIZATION PRESENTLY MEETING REGULARLY IN GENEVA
WHICH COULD BE TRANSFERRED TO NEW YORK IN EXCHANGE
FOR SHIFT OF OSLS; (C) WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO PARTICI-
PATE IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS ON MOON TREATY DURING
CURRENT OSC SESSION, BUT DOUBTED THEY WOULD BEAR MUCH

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FRUIT SINCE MOST DELS WERE UNINSTRUCTED ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES AND NOT APPROPRIATELY STAFFED FOR PURPOSE.

7. SOVIETS GAVE US A START BY INDICATING THEY WERE CONSIDERING MOVE TO AMEND AGREED TEXT OF REGISTRATION CONVENTION TO, AS THEY SAW IT, PLACE LESS ONUS ON STATE OF REGISTRY TO REPORT ON OBJECTS NO LONGER IN ORBIT. WE POINTED TO SERIOUS HAZARD THAT REOPENING PRIVISIONS ON INFORMATION TO BE FURNISHED IN REGISTRATION SUBMISSIONS COULD TRIGGER MOVES BY OTHERS TO EXPAND INFORMATION AND MARKING REQUIREMENTS IN WAYS UNACCEPTABLE TO BOTH COUNTRIES AND AWKWARD TO EXPLAIN PUBLICLY. THIS ARGUMENT, PLUS OUR OBSERVATION THAT CHANGE IN WORDING THEY WERE CONTEMPLATING WOULD NOT AFFECT SUBSTANTIVE OBLIGATIONS UNDER CONVENTION, APPARENTLY WAS PERSUASIVE.
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Draft Date: 03 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Authority: shawdg
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